

REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given by the applicants to the Examiner's comments and rejection of the claims, as set forth in the outstanding Office Action, and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, as amended, is earnestly solicited.

Applicants note the Examiner's formal grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, in that Claim 1 apparently has an inadvertent typographical error contained therein. Accordingly, an appropriate amendment has been implemented to provide the correct terminology indicating that it is the surface application of the electrically conductive material to the dielectric substrate forming the contact button in a precise manner, as also suggested by the Examiner. This, in effect, renders the formal ground of rejection to be moot.

Applicants further note the Examiner's rejection of the various claims as being unpatentable or anticipated by Crotzer, U.S. Patent No. 5,599,193 under either 35 U.S.C. §102(b) or, alternatively, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as extensively detailed in the outstanding Office Action.

Concerning the foregoing, although the rejection is primarily discussed with regard to the structural claims, applicants note the Examiner's rejection also extends to the method claims, predicated on the same grounds of rejection as applied to the preceding apparatus or product claims.

Accordingly, in order to clearly and unambiguously distinguish over the art, applicants have amended Claim 1 by incorporating the limitations of Claims 5 and 6 therein and further indicating that the electrically conductive material extends between opposite ends of the contact button, as applied to the surface, selectively, to form a continuous shell or to provide an intermittent pattern of the material depending upon the particular use.

The foregoing amendments have been correspondingly implemented in method Claim 16, which now incorporates the limitations of Claims 20 and 21.

Concerning the foregoing, applicants respectfully submit that although the Crotzer publication generally shows the utilization of contact buttons having metalized surfaces, none of these disclose the particular type of shell or intermittent pattern, selectively, provided on the surface of a resilient dielectric elastic constituted of siloxane and wherein the metals, which are superimposed thereon, are selected from the groups of material such as nickel, titanium alloy, copper or gold and other similar electrically conductive metals.

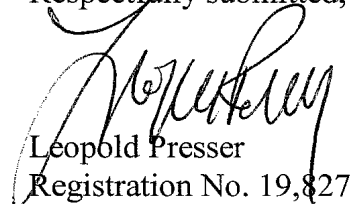
There is a specific construction and method of construction, which renders the present interposer structures to be novel in view of the art, and wherein it remained for the present applicants to derive such interposers which can be positioned in an array on a carrier so as to provide for electrical contact with components on both sides of a carrier plate or member.

Accordingly, it remained for the present applicants, as mentioned, to provide the contact buttons which, in a unique mode, can be readily constructed by either mask depositions or sputtering of the electrically conductive material onto the surface of the dielectric, such as the plastic or the formable siloxane to impart the unique operative characteristics thereto, as also described in the specification.

Accordingly, inasmuch as the claims have now been amended so as to be more specifically directed to the materials and particular constructions of each of the respective contact buttons, these provide clear advantages and distinctions over the art represented by Crotzer, and the early and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application by the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

However, in the event that the Examiner has any queries concerning the instantly submitted Amendment, applicants' attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of clarification.

Respectfully submitted,



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